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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/777,692	02/12/2004	Michael F. Laub	17711B	5716

7590 07/23/2004

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EXAMINER

TA, THO DAC

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2833

DATE MAILED: 07/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/777,692

Applicant(s)

LAUB ET AL.

Examiner

Tho D. Ta

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 4-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2 and 3 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This application is a continuation of Application/Control Number 10/005,625, filed on 12/05/01, now U.S. Patent 6,746,277.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 1-7 are objected to because of the following informalities: claim 1, lines 5-7, it is unclear if a coaxial cable recited on lines 5 and 7 are new coaxial cables or a repeat of the coaxial cable recited on line 2. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 4-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamaguchi (5,975,950).

In regard to claim 1, Yamaguchi discloses a coaxial cable connector comprising: a connector housing 7 configured to receive a coaxial cable W having inner and outer conductors W1, W3; a pair of ground contacts 16, 16', each contact 16, 16' configured to be connectable to an outer conductor W3 of a coaxial cable W; and a center contact 3 configured to be connectable to an inner conductor W1 of a coaxial cable W, the connector housing 7 maintaining the center contact 3 and the pair of ground contacts 16, 16' in parallel planes, the center contact 3 positioned between the pair of ground

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contacts 16, 16' in a strip line geometry (contact portion of 5 is between 16 and 16' and spaced by housing 7, see fig. 1).

In regard to claim 4, Yamaguchi discloses that the pair of ground contacts 16, 16' constitute opposed planar walls located on opposite sides of the center contact 3 (see fig. 1 at the mating area).

In regard to claim 5, Yamaguchi discloses that the pair of ground contacts 16, 16' include first and second ground shell walls positioned in the parallel planes on opposite sides of the center contact 3, and third and fourth ground shell walls positioned along side edges of the center contact 3 (see fig. 1).

In regard to claim 6, Yamaguchi discloses that the center contact 3 and pair of ground contacts 16, 16' generate an electric field having a magnitude focused in regions extending in a direction transverse to the parallel planes.

In regard to claim 7, Yamaguchi discloses that the pair of ground contacts 16, 16' and center contact form a flux density distribution having primary concentration areas proximate opposite sides of the center contact and secondary concentration areas proximate opposite lateral edges of the center contact (due to the four side walls of 16' cover the four side walls of 16 in the mating area in fig. 1).

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In regard to claim 8, Yamaguchi discloses a coaxial cable connector, comprising: a housing 7 having opposite ends configured to be connectable to a pair of coaxial cables W; a center contact 3 having a planar body (side wall of contact portion 5), the center contact 3 being configured to be connected to conductors W1 in the pair of coaxial cables W; and ground contacts 16, 16' configured to be connected to ground conductors W3 in the pair of coaxial cables W, the ground and center contacts 16, 16', 3 being retained by the housing 7 and being arranged parallel to one another (see fig. 1).

In regard to claims 9, 10, Yamaguchi discloses that the pair of coaxial cables W form circumferentially symmetric electric field distributions proximate opposite ends of the housing 7 and the center and ground contacts 3, 16, 16' form an asymmetric electric field distribution about the housing 7, the asymmetric electric field distribution having flux density focused in major areas extending outward from opposite sides of the planar body (contact portion of 3 is between 16 and 16' and spaced by housing 7, see fig. 1).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 2 and 3 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

4. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: In regard to claim 2, the combination of claim 1 and the recitation "the housing including flat exterior surfaces for receiving the pair of ground contacts, the slot and flat

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exterior surfaces being formed parallel to one another, the connector housing forming a dielectric layer separating the center and the pair of ground contacts by a predetermined distance” would render the claims unobvious over Yamaguchi. In regard to claim 3, it would not have been obvious to modify the pair of ground contacts of Yamaguchi to include U-shaped rectangular shells joining one another to surround the center contact.

Conclusion

5. This is a continuation of applicant's earlier Application No. 10/005,625. All claims are drawn to the same invention claimed in the earlier application and could have been finally rejected on the grounds and art of record in the next Office action if they had been entered in the earlier application. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL** even though it is a first action in this case. See MPEP § 706.07(b). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no, however, event will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tho D. Ta whose telephone number is (571) 272-2014. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


THO D. TA
PRIMARY EXAMINER

tdt
07/21/04